



FACT SHEET: HSDRRS Mitigation

Updated: 13 JULY 2011

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Project purpose

The Corps is making a concerted effort to avoid and minimize environmental impacts to the maximum extent practical while developing the Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS). When habitat losses occur, the Corps will compensate for such losses through compensatory mitigation. Compensatory mitigation is an important part of HSDRRS construction and could include habitat restoration, enhancement, or preservation.

Project location

Generally, impacts generated from the Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity (LPV) hurricane project will be mitigated in the Lake Pontchartrain Basin, between I-12 and the Mississippi River. Similarly, impacts generated from the West Bank & Vicinity (WBV) hurricane project will be mitigated in the Barataria Basin, between Bayou Lafourche and the Mississippi River. **See map on reverse.**

Project features

The HSDRRS mitigation project team is evaluating potential large scale mitigation plans east and west of the Mississippi River, near New Orleans, in cooperation with environmental resource agencies and non-federal sponsors. Currently, the plan is to compensate for four habitat categories impacted during development of the risk reduction system: wet and dry bottomland hardwood forests, swamps and marshlands.

*Current estimated habitat impacts from constructing HSDRRS LPV & WBV and WBV Pre-K projects

Habitat Type	HSDRRS LPV Acres	HSDRRS WBV Acres	WBV (Pre-Katrina) Acres
<i>Bottomland Hardwood</i>	234	514	610
<i>Swamp</i>	167	189	436
<i>Marshlands</i>	346	120	-
<i>Total Acres</i>	747	823	1,046

*To compensate for these impacts, the mitigation acreage may be larger than the impact acreage. Impacts were last updated March 16, 2011.

Project status

The Corps' ongoing mitigation efforts include periodic Individual Environmental Report (IER) update meetings. There have been seven meetings thus far, five in May 2010 and two in December 2010. The New Orleans District, in collaboration with its state and federal partners and stakeholders, is currently exploring potential mitigation sites that fulfill the legal requirements for HSDRRS mitigation. For HSDRRS LPV and WBV, initial screening of measures is complete (Jul and Aug 2010, respectively) as well as data collection (Jun 2011). HSDRRS LPV and WBV Milestones: Assemble Alternative Plans (Aug 2011), Identify Proposed Plan (Oct 2011), Release IERs for Public Review (May 2012), Final Design (Aug 2012), Real Estate Acquisition (Sep 2012 thru Sep 2013), and Issue Construction Contracts (Sep 2013). WBV (Pre-K) Milestones: Environmental Assessment Approval (Nov 2011), Plans & Specifications Approval (Jul 2012), Real Estate Acquisition (Jul 2012), and Issue Construction Contract (Oct 2012).

For more information, please visit nolaenvironmental.gov.

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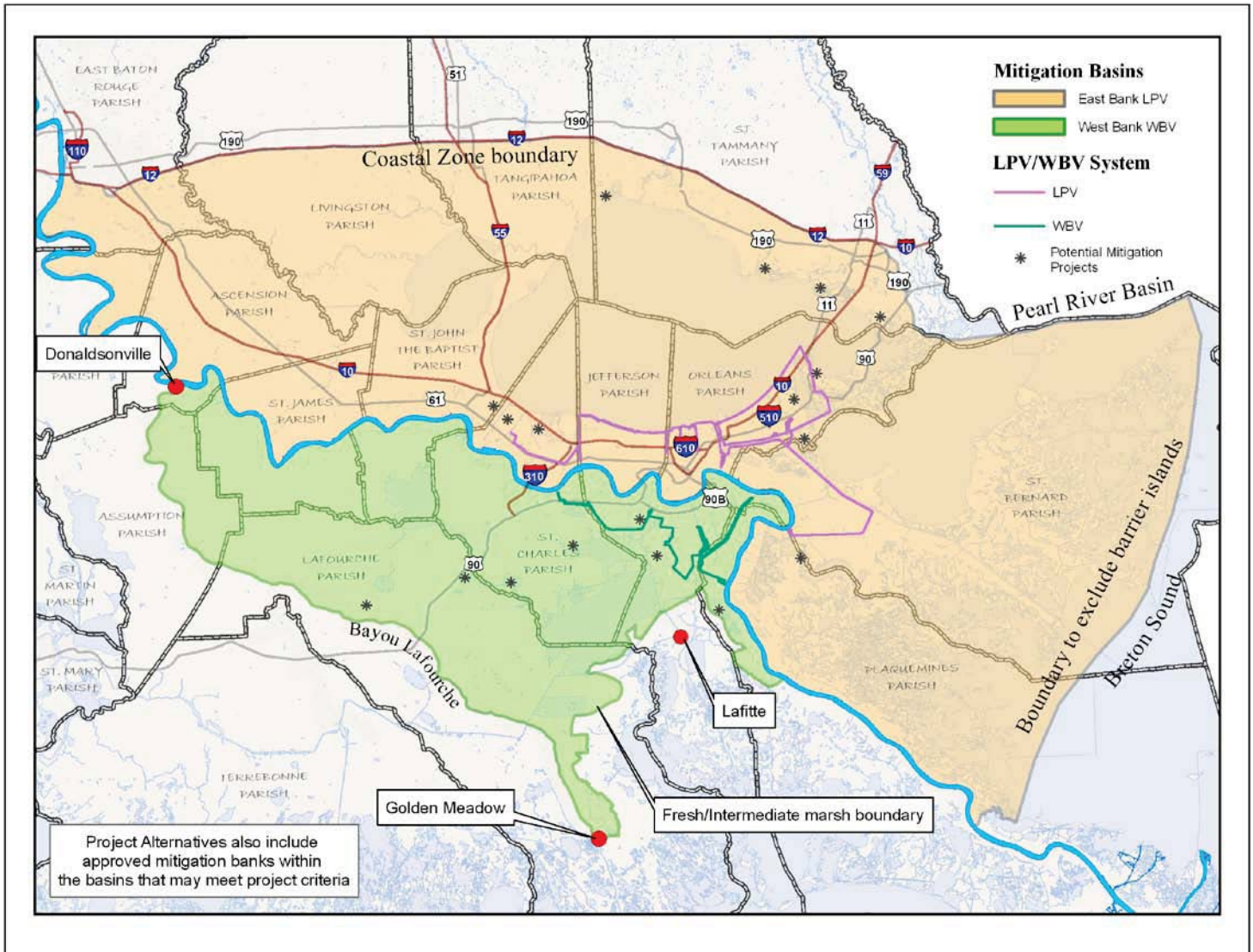
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Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity and West Bank & Vicinity Project Map



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